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# NEWS RELEASE

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## **USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES \$1,063,100 TO PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT NO. 4 OF WASHINGTON COUNTY**



Pictured from left to right: 1st row: Heather Garner, Director, Farmington District Office for Representative Jo Ann Emerson, Donna Martin, Rural Development Area Specialist, Cathy Coffman, Rural Development Manager, Vernon Skaggs, President of PWDS #4, Jesse Gibson, Vice President of PWSD #4, Virginia Skaggs, Melba Stevens, and Arthur Stevens.

2nd row: John Steffen, Bob Summers, Schultz Engineering, Terry Luetkemeyer, Rural Development Area Director, Scott Robbins, Attorney w/Kennedy, Kennedy, Robbins, Larry Homes, Mary Popek, Mary Walsh, Jack Ulrich, Nancy Besserman, Charles Besserman and Rue Ulrich

Greg Branum, State Director for USDA Rural Development in Missouri, announced \$1,063,100 in funding to Public Water Supply District No. 4 of Washington County. A Mock Check ceremony was held on April 14, 2005 in conjunction with the national celebration of Earth Day. The Mock Check represents approval of \$483,100 loan funds and \$580,000 grant funds to be used for construction of a sewer system to serve 100 + households.

"This is a great partnership effort when everyone works together for a common goal of meeting the needs of an environmentally safe waste disposal system," said Branum. "This project mirrors USDA Rural Development's mission and President Bush's initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities. I want to personally thank everyone that has worked together to make this project a reality. I am pleased that so many rural households will benefit from an adequate and dependable waste disposal system."

President Vernon Skaggs said, "On behalf of the Board of Directors of PWSD # 4, we would like to thank all of the lot owners who took the time to vote and passed our recent bond issue by over a 90% majority. We feel that the installation

of a sewer system for Holiday Shores will greatly increase the value of the lot owner's property as well as preserve the environment and our beautiful lake."

Branum added, "Appreciation is extended to U.S. Senators "Kit" Bond and Jim Talent plus U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson for supporting USDA Rural Development. Economic development, the creation of jobs and funding essential services mirror the Agency's mission and President Bush's initiative of increasing economic opportunity in rural communities and improving the quality of life of rural residents".

Anyone seeking additional information on any USDA Rural Development program may visit the website at (<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/>) or by contacting the Cathy Coffman, Rural Development Manager, 10820 Hwy 21 Suite 112, Hillsboro, MO, 63050 or calling 636-789-2175.

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